NOTE FOR P.S.

(934) T&P:1-2

There seems no harm in acquainting Lord Willingdon with this (Subsidy) question also, and enlisting his sympathy and support. In fact, to my mind, this Subsidy question is one which stands in peculiar need of an " Ambassador " - powerful, and disinterested - like Lord Willingdon, and it would be a thousand pities to let go this unique opportunity of utilising Lord Willingdon's services in bringing the matter to the Viceroy's notice.

Our position in regard to the C & M. Station surplus is a very strong one, and the Government of India, I am sure, fully realise it. Hence these informal "feelers" in reply to a strongly-worded official letter from Mysore. A Viceroy of such high Judicial experience and acumen as Lord Reading, is more than likely to decide in our favour in a case like this.

It is the Subsidy question, which needs much more delicate and diplomatic handling. A word from Lord Willingdon in support of the Durbar's representation, cannot fail to impress Lord Reading, and induce him to take a personal and sympathetic interest in the matter, and who knows, the Viceroy may, conceivably, take a very favourable view of the question, and make up his mind to do a good turn to Mysore, and put an end to the controversy. The times are propitious. I am still full of hopes. Only, Lord Willingdon must be won over, and convinced of the reasonableness of Mysore's representation-before he can be expected to win for us the sympathy of the Viceroy, and I feel sure you will be able to manage it successfully.

These are the only two questions of importance which Mysore is anxious to see settled in a satisfactory manner as early as practicable - one of them, the State

is not responsible for. It is the Government of India themselves who are causing trouble. Surely, they are not going to complain that we are badgering them too much..

I am enclosing you another volume of the printed collection bearing on the subject of the Surplus Revenues. Mr. Banerji's note, appearing at the end, is a clear statement of certain aspects of the case, and is worth perusal.

The Surplus - if calculated according to the original understanding - will amount to more than Rs 5 lakhs a year (they had provided for 8 lakhs in our last year's budget). I am justmentioning this here, in case Lord Willingdon should say that we were opening our mouths too wide. Rs 5 lakhs cannot be said to be too much, considering the direct and indirect benefits the Assigned Tract enjoys from its situation in the Station, and the surplus actually likely to accrue in future years owing to the increase of population and general prosperity of the Tract; and it is only right that it should contribute its fair share to the State.

(Intd) M. I.

6-5-1921.